Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/917,789	LYNCH ET AL.	
	Examin r	Art Unit	
	Christopher Nichols, Ph.D.	1647	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *27 August 2003*.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *95-101,103-114,116-127,129-140,142-153,155-166,168-179,181-192,194-205,207-219,221-232,234-245,247-258,260-271,273-284,286-297,299-310,312-323 and 325-330*.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on *27 August 2003* are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
   (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. ____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
   (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
4☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Pap r No.____ .
5☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. ____.
6☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
7☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
8☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9☐ Other .

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Application, Amendments, and/or Claims

1. The Amendment filed 27 August 2003 has been received and entered in full. Claims 1-94 have been cancelled and claims 95-330 have been added.

Withdrawn Objections And/Or Rejections

2. The Objection to the Specification as set forth at pp. 2-3 ¶4-7 in the previous Office Action (27 February 2003) is *withdrawn* in view of Applicant's amendments (Amendment and Reply, 27 August 2003).

3. The rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶1 as set forth at pp. 3-7 ¶8-16 in the previous Office Action (27 February 2003) is *withdrawn* in view of Applicant's amendments (Amendment and Reply, 27 August 2003).

4. The rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 as set forth at pp. 7 ¶17 in the previous Office Action (27 February 2003) is *withdrawn* in view of Applicant's amendments (Amendment and Reply, 27 August 2003).

5. The Declaration of Xiaoning Bi and Gary Lynch filed on 27 August 2003 under 37 CFR 1.131 is sufficient to overcome the Bi *et al.* (21 March 2000) "Novel Cathepsin D Inhibitors Block the Formation of Hyperphosphorylated Tau Fragments in Hippocampus." Journal of Neurochemistry 74**(4)**: 1469-1477 reference. Thus the rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as set forth at pp. 8 ¶18-20 in the previous Office Action (27 February 2003) is *moot*.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claim ~~95~~ 1 (Currently Amended) An in vitro method of determining the effect of a substance on characteristics that are indicative of Alzheimer's Disease ~~or related neurodegenerative disorders~~ in rodent brain cells, said method comprising:

(A) exposing said brain cells to a cathepsin D-increasing agent or compound under conditions that increase the concentration or amount of cathepsin D in said cells to an effective concentration,

(B) maintaining said cells for a time that is sufficient to induce, relative to the levels present in the absence of said substance, one or more characteristics indicative of ~~said~~ Alzheimer's Disease ~~or said related neurodegenerative disorders~~ in said cells as a result of said increase in said cathepsin D,

(C) adding said substance before, during and/or after said exposing or said maintaining; and

(D) determining whether the presence of said substance has an effect on the induction of said one or more characteristics, wherein said characteristics are selected from the group consisting of:

(1) the formation of neurofibrillary tangles,

(2) the hyperphosphorylation of tau,

(3) the fragmentation of tau,

(4) the production and/or release of brain-produced cytokines TGF-beta, IL-lb, or TNF~~, or LPS~~,

(5) a microglia reaction or microglial activation,

(6) indications of brain inflammatory reactions,

(7) conversion of p35 to p25,

(8) changes in the level and/or activity of cyclin dependent protein kinase 5 (cdk5), and

(9) changes in the level and/or activity of mitogen activated protein kinases (MAPK), wherein said effect on said induction of any or all of said characteristics in D(1)- D(9) is indicative of the appearance or disappearance, respectively, of said characteristics of ~~said~~ Alzheimer's Disease ~~or said related neurodegenerative disorders, wherein said related neurodegenerative disorder is one in which exposing said rodent brain cells to a cathepsin D-increasing agent or compound under conditions that increase the concentration or amount of cathepsin D in said cells to an effective concentration induces one or more of said characteristics of D(1)-D(9)~~.

Claim ~~96~~ 2 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~95~~ 1, wherein said characteristic is said formation of neurofibrillary tangles.

Claim ~~97~~ 3 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~95~~ 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~98~~ 4 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~97~~ 3, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~99~~ 5 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~96~~ 2, wherein said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~100~~ 6 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~96~~ 2, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~101~~ 7 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~100~~ 6, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 102 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~103~~ 8 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~96-102~~ 2-7 ~~96-101~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~104~~ 9 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~103~~ 8, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~105~~ 10 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~103~~ 8, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~106~~ 11 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~96-102~~ 96-101 2-7, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~107~~ 12 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~106~~ 11, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~108~~ 13 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~106~~ 11, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~109~~ 14 (Previously Added) The method of claim 95 1, wherein said characteristic is said hyperphosphorylation of tau.

Claim ~~110~~ 15 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~109~~ 14, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~111~~ 16 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~110~~ 15, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~112~~ 17 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~109~~ 14, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~113~~ 18 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~109~~ 14, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~114~~ 19 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~113~~ 18, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 115 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~116~~ 20 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~109-115~~ 14-19 ~~109-114~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~117~~ 21 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~116~~ 20, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~118~~ 22 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~116~~ 20, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~119~~ 23 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~109-115~~ 14-19 ~~109-114~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~120~~ 24 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~119~~ 23, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~121~~ 25 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~119~~ 23, wherein said rodent is a rat.

26

Claim ~~122~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~95~~, wherein said characteristic is said fragmentation of tau.

27 26

Claim ~~123~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~122~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

28 27

Claim ~~124~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~123~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

29 26

Claim ~~125~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~122~~, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

30 26

Claim ~~126~~ (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~122~~, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

31 30

Claim ~~127~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~126~~, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 128 (Cancelled)

32 26-31
Claim ~~129~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~122-128~~ ~~122-127~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

33 32
Claim ~~130~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~129~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

34 32
Claim ~~131~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~129~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

35 26-31
Claim ~~132~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~122-128~~ ~~122-127~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

36 35
Claim ~~133~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~132~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

37 35
Claim ~~134~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~132~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

38 1
Claim ~~135~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~95~~, wherein said characteristic is said production and/or release of brain-produced cytokines TGF-beta, IL-1b, or TNF ~~or LPS~~.

39 38
Claim ~~136~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~135~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~

chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

40 39
Claim ~~137~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~136~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

41 38
Claim ~~138~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~135~~, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

42 38
Claim ~~139~~ (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~135~~, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

43 42
Claim ~~140~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~139~~, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 141 (Cancelled)

44 38-43
Claim ~~142~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~135-141~~ 135-140, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

45 44
Claim ~~143~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~142~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~144~~ 46 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~143~~ 45, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~145~~ 47 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~135-141~~ 135-140 38-43, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~146~~ 48 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~145~~ 47, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~147~~ 49 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~145~~ 47, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~148~~ 50 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~95~~ 1, wherein said characteristic is said microglia reaction or microglial activation.

Claim ~~149~~ 51 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~148~~ 50, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~150~~ 52 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~149~~ 51, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~151~~ 53 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~148~~ 50, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~152~~ 54 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~148~~ 50, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~153~~ 55 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~152~~ 54, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 154 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~155~~ 56 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~148-154~~ 50-55 148-~~153~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~156~~ 57 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~155~~ 56, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~157~~ 58 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~155~~ 56, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~158~~ 59 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~148-154~~ 50-55 148-~~153~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~159~~ 60 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~158~~ 59, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~160~~ 61 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~158~~ 59, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~161~~ 62 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~95~~ 1, wherein said characteristic is said indications of brain inflammatory reactions.

Claim ~~162~~ 63 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~161~~ 62, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~163~~ 64 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~162~~ 63, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~164~~ 65 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~163~~ 64, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~165~~ 66 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~161~~ 62, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~166~~ 167 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~165~~ 66, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 167 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~168~~ 68 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~161-167~~ 161-166, 62-67 wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~169~~ 69 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~168~~ 68, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~170~~ 70 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~168~~ 68, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~171~~ 71 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~161-167~~ 161-166, 62-67 wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~172~~ 72 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~171~~ 71, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~173~~ 73 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~171~~ 71, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~174~~ 74 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~95~~ 1, wherein said characteristic is said conversion of p35 to p25.

Claim ~~175~~ 175 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~174~~ 174, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~176~~ 176 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~174~~ 175, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~177~~ 177 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~174~~ 174, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~178~~ 178 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~174~~ 174, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~179~~ 179 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~178~~ 178, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 180 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~181~~ 80 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~174-180~~ 174-179, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~182~~ 81 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~181~~ 80, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~183~~ 82 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~181~~ 80, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~184~~ 83 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~174-180~~ 174-179, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~185~~ 84 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~184~~ 83, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~186~~ 85 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~185~~ 84, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~187~~ 86 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~95~~ 1, wherein said characteristic is said changes in the level and/or activity of cyclin dependent protein kinase 5 (cdk5).

Claim ~~188~~ 87 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~187~~ 86, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~189~~ 88 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~188~~ 87, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~190~~ 89 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~187~~ 86, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~191~~ 90 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~187~~ 86, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~192~~ 91 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~191~~ 90, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 193 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~194~~ 92 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~187-193~~ 86-91, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~195~~ 93 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~194~~ 92, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~196~~ 94 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~194~~ 92, wherein said rodent is a rat.

95 86-91
Claim ~~197~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~187-193~~ ~~187-192~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

96 95
Claim ~~198~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~197~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

97 95
Claim ~~199~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~197~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

98 1
Claim ~~200~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~95~~, wherein said characteristic is said changes in the level and/or activity of mitogen activated protein kinases.

99 98
Claim ~~201~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~200~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

100 99
Claim ~~202~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~201~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

101 98
Claim ~~203~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~200~~, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~204~~ 102 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~200~~ 98, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~205~~ 103 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~204~~ 102, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 206 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~207~~ 104 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~200-206~~ ~~200-205~~ 98-103, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~208~~ 105 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~207~~ 104, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~209~~ 106 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~207~~ 104, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~210~~ 107 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~200-206~~ ~~200-205~~ 98-103, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~211~~ 108 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~210~~ 107, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~212~~ 109 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~210~~ 107, wherein said rodent is a rat.

110

Claim 215 (Currently Amended) An in vitro method of determining the effect of a substance on characteristics that are indicative of Alzheimer's Disease ~~or related neurodegenerative disorders~~ in rodent brain cells, said method comprising:

(A) exposing said brain cells to a condition that disrupts lysosomal activity in said cells, wherein said condition comprises contacting said cells with a compound that disrupts lysosomal activity,

(B) maintaining said cells for a time that is sufficient to induce, relative to the levels present in the absence of said substance, one or more characteristics indicative of said Alzheimer's Disease ~~or said neurodegenerative disorders~~ in said cells as a result of said disruption of said lysosomal activity,

(C) adding said substance before, during and/or after said exposing or said maintaining; and

(D) determining whether the presence of said substance has an effect on the induction of said one or more characteristics, wherein said characteristics are selected from the group consisting of:

(1) the formation of neurofibrillary tangles,

(2) the hyperphosphorylation of tau,

(3) the fragmentation of tau,

(4) the production and/or release of brain-produced cytokines TGF-beta, IL-lb, or TNF~~, or LPS~~,

(5) a microglia reaction or microglial activation,

(6) indications of brain inflammatory reactions, conversion of p35 to p25,

(8) changes in the level and/or activity of cyclin dependent protein kinase 5 (cdk5), and

(9) changes in the level and/or activity of mitogen activated protein kinases (MAPK), wherein said effect on said induction of any or all of said characteristics in D(1)- D(9) is indicative of the

appearance or disappearance, respectively, of said characteristics of said Alzheimer's Disease ~~or said related neurodegenerative disorders, wherein said related neurodegenerative disorder is one in which exposing rodent brain cells to a condition that disrupts lysosomal activity in said cells, induces one or more of said characteristics of D(1)-D(9)~~.

111 110
Claim ~~214~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~213~~, wherein said characteristic is said formation of neurofibrillary tangles.

112 111
Claim ~~215~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~214~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

113 112
Claim ~~216~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~215~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

114 111
Claim ~~217~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~214~~, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

115 111
Claim ~~218~~ (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~214~~, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~219~~ 116 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~218~~ 115, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 220 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~221~~ 117 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~214-220~~ 111-116, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~222~~ 118 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~221~~ 117, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~223~~ 119 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~222~~ 118, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~224~~ 120 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~214-220~~ 111-116, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~225~~ 121 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~224~~ 120, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~226~~ 122 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~224~~ 120, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~227~~ 123 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~215~~ 110, wherein said characteristic is hyperphosphorylation of tau.

Claim ~~228~~ 124 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~227~~ 123, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~229~~ 175 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~228~~ 124, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~230~~ 126 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~227~~ 123, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~231~~ 127 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~227~~ 123, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~232~~ 128 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~231~~ 127, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 233 (Cancelled)

129 123-128
Claim ~~234~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~227-233~~ ~~227-232~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

130 129
Claim ~~235~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~234~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

131 129
Claim ~~236~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim 234, wherein said rodent is a rat.

132 123-128
Claim ~~237~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~227-233~~ ~~227-232~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

133 132
Claim ~~238~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~237~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

134 132
Claim ~~239~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~237~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

135 110
Claim ~~240~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~213~~, wherein said characteristic is said fragmentation of tau.

136 135
Claim ~~241~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~240~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

Claim ~~242~~ 137 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~241~~ 136, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

Claim ~~243~~ 138 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~240~~ 135, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~244~~ 139 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~240~~ 135, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~245~~ 140 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~244~~ 139, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 246 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~247~~ 141 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~240-246~~ ~~240-245~~ 135-140, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~248~~ 142 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~247~~ 141, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~249~~ 143 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~247~~ 141, wherein said rodent is a rat.

144 135-140
Claim ~~250~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~240-246~~ ~~240-245~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

145 144
Claim ~~251~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~250~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

146 144
Claim ~~252~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~250~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

147 110
Claim ~~253~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~213~~, wherein said characteristic is said production and/or release of brain-produced cytokines TGF-beta, IL-1b, or TNF ~~or LPS~~.

148 135
Claim ~~254~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~240~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

149 148
Claim ~~255~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~254~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

150 148
Claim ~~256~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~255~~, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

Claim ~~257~~ 151 (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~253~~ 147, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

Claim ~~258~~ 152 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~257~~ 151, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 259 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~260~~ 153 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~253-259~~ 147-152 ~~253-258~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~261~~ 154 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~260~~ 153, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~262~~ 155 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~260~~ 153, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~263~~ 156 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~253-259~~ 147-152 ~~253-258~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~264~~ 157 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~263~~ 156, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~265~~ 158 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~263~~ 156, wherein said rodent is a rat.

159 110
Claim ~~266~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~213~~, wherein said characteristic is said microglia reaction or microglial activation.

160 159
Claim ~~267~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~266~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

161 160
Claim ~~268~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~267~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

162 159
Claim ~~269~~ (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~266~~, wherein said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

163 159
Claim ~~270~~ (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~266~~, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

164 163
Claim ~~271~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~270~~, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 272 (Cancelled)

Claim ~~273~~ 165 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~266-272~~ ~~266-271~~ 159-164, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~274~~ 166 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~273~~ 165, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~275~~ 167 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~273~~ 165, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~276~~ 168 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~266-272~~ ~~266-271~~ 159-164, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

Claim ~~277~~ 169 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~276~~ 168, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

Claim ~~278~~ 170 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~276~~ 168, wherein said rodent is a rat.

Claim ~~279~~ 171 (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~215~~ 110, wherein said characteristic is said indications of brain inflammatory reactions.

Claim ~~280~~ 172 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~279~~ 171, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~

chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

173
Claim 281 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 280, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

174
Claim 282 (Previously Added) The method of claim 279, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

175
Claim 283 (Previously Added): The method of claim 279, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

176
Claim 284 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 283, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 285 (Cancelled)

177
Claim 286 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims 279-285 279-284, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

178
Claim 287 (Previously Added) The method of claim 286, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

179 177
Claim ~~288~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~286~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

180 171-176
Claim ~~289~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~279-285~~ ~~279-284~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

181 180
Claim ~~290~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~289~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

182 180
Claim ~~291~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~289~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

183 110
Claim ~~292~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~213~~, wherein said characteristic is said conversion of p35 to p25.

184 183
Claim ~~293~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~292~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

185 184
Claim ~~294~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~293~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

186 183
Claim ~~295~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~292~~, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

187 185
Claim ~~296~~ (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~294~~, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

188 187
Claim ~~297~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~296~~, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 298 (Cancelled)

189 183-188
Claim ~~299~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~292-298~~ ~~292-297~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

190 189
Claim ~~300~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~299~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

191 189
Claim ~~301~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~299~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

192 183-188
Claim ~~302~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~292-298~~ ~~292-297~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

193 192
Claim ~~303~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~302~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

194 192
Claim ~~304~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~302~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

195 110
Claim ~~305~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~213~~, wherein said characteristic is said changes in the level and/or activity of cyclin dependent protein kinase 5 (cdc5).

196 195
Claim ~~306~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~305~~, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

197 196
Claim ~~307~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~306~~, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

198 195
Claim ~~308~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~305~~, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

199 195
Claim ~~309~~ (Previously Added): The method of claim ~~305~~, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

200 199
Claim ~~310~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~309~~, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 311 (Cancelled)

201 195-200
Claim ~~312~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~305-311~~ 305-310, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

202 201
Claim ~~313~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~312~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

203 201
Claim ~~314~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~312~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

204 195-200
Claim ~~315~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~305-311~~ 305-310, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

205 204
Claim ~~316~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~315~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

206 204
Claim ~~317~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~315~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

207 110
Claim ~~318~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~215~~, wherein said characteristic is said changes in the level and/or activity of mitogen activated protein kinases.

213 207-212
Claim ~~325~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~318-324~~ 318-~~323~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-deficient rodent brain cells.

214 213
Claim ~~326~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~325~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

215 213
Claim ~~327~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~325~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

216 207-212
Claim ~~328~~ (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims ~~318-324~~ 318-~~323~~, wherein said rodent brain cells are apolipoprotein E-containing rodent brain cells.

217 216
Claim ~~329~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~328~~, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

218 216
Claim ~~330~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~328~~, wherein said rodent is a rat.

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7. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michele Cimbala (Reg. No. 33851) on 7 October 2003.

Summary

8. Claims **95-101, 103-114, 116-127, 129-140, 142-153, 155-166, 168-179, 181-192, 194-205, 207-219, 221-232, 234-245, 247-258, 260-271, 273-284, 286-297, 299-310, 312-323, and 325-330** are hereby allowed.

208 207

Claim 319 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 318, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~a compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~ chloroquine, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone, N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-phenylalanine-diazomethylketone, and beta-amyloid.

209 208

Claim 320 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 319, wherein said compound is N-CBZ-L-phenylalanyl-L-alanine-diazomethylketone ~~ZPAD~~.

210 207

Claim 321 (Previously Added) The method of claim 318, where said brain cells are in the form of dissociated cells.

211 207

Claim 322 (Previously Added): The method of claim 318, wherein said brain cells are in the form of a brain slice.

212 211

Claim 323 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 322, wherein said brain slice is selected from the group consisting of a hippocampal slice, an entorhinal cortex slice, an entorhinohippocampal slice, a neocortex slice, a hypothalamic slice, ~~or~~ and a cortex slice.

Claim 324 (Cancelled)

9. The Examiner acknowledges that acceptance of the above Examiner's Amendment does not mitigate in any way, shape, or form, Applicant's right to pursue additional subject matter in continuation, continuation-in-part, and/or divisional applications pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120 and §121.

10. The following articles, patents, and published patent applications were found by the Examiner during the art search while not relied upon for the grounds of a rejection, are here made of note:

a. US 5849691 (15 December 1998) Majer *et al.*

b. US 5686269 (11 November 1997) Nixon

c. US 5747517 (5 May 1998) Panetta *et al.*

d. US 6251928 (26 June 2001) Panetta *et al.*

e. US 5858982 (12 January 1999) Tung *et al.*

f. US 2002/0094958 A1 (18 July 2002) Bahr

g. Goldsby *et al.* KUBY Immunology 4th Ed. (pp. 617)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Christopher James Nichols, Ph.D.** whose telephone number is 703-305-3955. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Gary Kunz, Ph.D.** can be reached on 703-308-4623. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9307 for After Final communications. The fax phone numbers for the customer service center is 703-872-9305

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

CJN
October 7, 2003

GARY KUNZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600